Refusal to accept cheques for voluntary advance deposits by Telephone subscribers

839. SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Accounts Department of the Office of the Area Manager (South), Nehru Place Exchange, New Delhi which has been accepting cheques for voluntary advance deposits by the Telephone subscribers till the end of last year, suddenly refused to accept the same towards the end of January this year and the Accounts Officer (S) gave remarks on the Demand Note Cash only;

(b) if so, under what authority or order the Accounts Officer (S) acted, thus causing considerable harassment particularly to the aged widows concerned who had to carry cash;

(c) whether even after the remittance of cash voluntary advance deposits, the Accounts Officer (S) disconnected some Phones in '63' level Exchange, for alleged non-payment of the Bill irrespective of the fact that sufficient amount was lying at the credit of the party concerned; and

(d) the action Government propose to take against the officials involved and the steps proposed to be taken to bring down such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The payment of deposits raised through demand notes is usually accepted in Cash/through Demand Draft only. However, in exceptional cases, on the request of subscribers, cheques are also accepted, but follow up action for adjustment of and accounting for, the deposits is taken on realisation of the proceeds on the cheques.

(b) As stated above the normal accepted practice is to accept payment in Cash/through Demand Draft.

(c) There was one single instance of this nature, and suitable disciplinary action has been taken against the delinquent officer.

(d) To avoid recurrence of such cases, instructions regarding feeding of data to the computer promptly after receipt of voluntary deposits have been reiterated, and, as indicated above, exemplary action taken against the errant officer.

Mobile Civil Emergency Force

840. SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mobile Civil Emergency Force (MCEF), Delhi has been wound up w.e.f. 7th September, 1989;

(b) if so, whether employees of the erstwhile organisation had been asked to exercise option in the matter of their absorption in some other organisation or to be sent to the Central Surplus Cell at the time of winding up of the MCEF; and

(c) if the reply to part (b) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor and whether Government propose to obtain options from the employees in view of the Department of Personnel revised Order dated 1st April, 1989 under which condition of six months for absorption/re-employment through Central Surplus Cell has been dispensed with?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At the time of formal winding up of MCEF, such of the employees of the MCEF who did not exercise their option to join the CISF were sent to the Central Surplus Cell for redeployment in terms of the interim order of the Supreme Court dated